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(d) within what period the Government propose to complete the programme of agricultural pumping in the district?

A.—(a) The information is furnished in the statement [a] annexed.

(b) Investigation regarding wells suitable for electrical pumping in the district has not yet been made.

(c) The Electricity department expects to complete in 1937 the work of laying transmission lines and give supply of power in Tiruppattur, Gudiyattam, Vellore and Walajapet taluks and in 1938 in the taluks of Chengam, Tiruvannamalai, Polur and Arni.

(d) No extensive rural electrification programme has been prepared. In areas where Government will distribute energy direct to the consumers, promising areas will be selected as soon as supply becomes available, and such areas will be surveyed and developed.

Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi:—" With reference to the answer to clause (b), may I know whether it will not be possible on the part of the Government to prepare a scheme or rather a programme before the supply of energy becomes available?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" I think the answer covers that idea."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" In view of the fact that there are a large number of wells in the North Arcot district, will the Government make up their minds speedily to undertake the supply of energy to rural areas?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" Haste is waste, they say, and I think the hon. Member will certainly expect the Government to take sufficient time to come to a correct decision."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" May I know what exactly the Government means by haste?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" Exactly the same thing which the hon. Member is meaning by the word."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" May I know whether the Hon. Member knows what I mean by it?"

Police

Assault by soldiers on pedestrians near the Munro Statue, Madras.

* 695 Q.—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state with reference to the answer to question No. 521-A regarding the attack by the soldiers on T. N. Sundararaman and five others—

(a) whether the investigation of the complaint has been since completed; if so, what the result of the same is; and

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[a] Printed as Appendix on page 439 infra.

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(*b*) what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—The investigation made by the police showed that on the night in question a party of British soldiers did assault the complainants. The Military authorities held an identification parade on the 19th November 1935 but as the complainants failed to identify the alleged assailants further action could not be taken.

Irrigation

Failure of freshes in the Cauvery channels of Namakkal taluk.

* 696 *Q*.—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that on account of the rains in the Tanjore Delta, and consequent shutting up of water tightly in the Mettur Dam, failures of water in the Cauvery channels of Namakkal taluk have occurred;

(*b*) how many times such failures have occurred so far; and

(*c*) what the loss caused to the ryots is by such failures, and how long such failures lasted during each time?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Four times, once in each of the months of August, October, November and December 1935.

(*c*) The extent of loss due to short supply cannot be readily estimated. It was probably slight. The duration of shortage in supply was five days in August, four days in October, four days in November and about six days in December 1935.

Failure of freshes in the Cauvery channels in Namakkal taluk, Salem district.

* 697 *Q*.—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that water has failed in the Cauvery channels in Namakkal taluk of Salem district during October last on account of stoppage of water at Mettur owing to the fact of the area at Tanjore and Trichinopoly having sufficient supply on account of freshes in the tributaries (Noyyal and Amaravathi) which join the river Cauvery down below the point where the Korambu for Salem area exists;

(*b*) if so, how long water has failed in the channels;

(*c*) what will be the estimated loss of crops on account of such a failure;